Pension to freedom fighters in West Bengal

*23. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of freedom fighters in West Bengal are yet to get their pension under the Central Freedom Fighter's Pension Scheme:

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Of the applications for grant of freedom fighters' pension, received from the State of West Bengal upto the prescribed last date of 31-3-82; pension has so far been sanctioned to 22142 freedom fighters. The remaining applications could not be accepted as they did not satisfy the prescribed conditions. Of the applications received after the prescribed date, at present only 35 applications are pending exmaination.

Widening of National Higway from Vijayawada to Chilakaluripeta

*24. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the national highway between Vijayawada and Chilakaluripeta is proposed to be widened into four lanes;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the target date for completion of the said work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Four-laning of Vijayawada-Guntur-Chilakaluripeta section will depend on inter-se priority of various projects on all India basis and availability of funds for four-laning during 8th Plan. Due to constraint of funds, it is too early to say when the four-laning will be sanctioned However, preliminary steps to acquire land for the purpose have been taken.

Blindness due to lack of Vitamin 'A'

*25. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of children in the country lose their eye sight every year due to lack of Vitamin 'A' intake in their regular food;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any study in this regard in the State of Bihar;

(d) if so, what are the details of findings of such a study; and

(e) what action Government have taken or propose to take to make adequate quantity of Vitamin 'A' available to every child in the country particularly in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey conducted in 1986-89 has revealed that 04.46 per cent of leading ocular disorders are due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency. The prevalence rates of Vitamin 'A' deficiency in 0-6 years rural and urban population is 6.01 per cent.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The survey has revealed that in Bihar, 9.49 per cent of leading ocular disorders are accounted for by Vitamin 'A' deficiency as against the national average of 04.46 per cent. The prevalence rate of Vitamin 'A' deficiency in 0—6 years rural and urban population in Bihar was 8.99 per cent against the national average of 6.01 per cent.

(e) Vitamin 'A' is sought to be provided to children between 9 months to three years of age, twice a year.

रेलवे द्वारा "व्हीलर एण्ड व्हीलर" नामक फर्म को ही लाइसेंस दिया जाना

*26. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने रेलवे स्टेशनों के प्लेटफार्मों पर पुस्तकों, समाचार-पत्रों और अन्य पत्रिकाओं की बिक्री करने के लिये "व्हीलर एण्ड व्हीलर" नामक केवल एक फर्म को ही लाइसेंस दे रखा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) प्लेटफार्मों पर पुस्तकें, समाचार-पत्र और पत्रिकाएं बेचने के क्या मानदण्ड हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार इस प्रकार के लाइसेंस केवल स्वतंत्रता-सेनानियों, भूतपूर्व सैनिकों और विकलांग व्यक्तियों को ही देने का विचार रखती है और यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ): (क) से (ङ) जी नहीं, बुक-स्टाल लाइसेंसधारियों से यह अपेक्षा की जाती है कि करार की शर्तों के अनुसार वे साहित्य तथा अन्य पाठ्य-सामग्री प्रदर्शित करें और उसकी ही बिक्री करें, मौजूदा बुक-स्टालों के अलावा, नये आबंटन ज्यादातर सहकारी समितियों, बेरोजगार स्नातकों के एसोसिएशनों और वास्तविक कामगारों/रेलवे बुक स्टालों के वेंडरों की सहकारी समितियों तथा अलग-अलग बेरोजगार स्नातकों आदि के लिए निर्धारित किए जाते हैं, ऐसा समझा जाता है कि इस समय, किन्हीं और कोटियों को इसमें शामिल किया जाना विशेष ग्रुपों के हितों के प्रतिकूल होगा ।

गुजरात में रेलवे फाटकों का निर्माण

*27. **श्री राम सिंह राठवा** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गुजरात में कितने स्थानों पर रेलवे फाटकों का निर्माण कार्य चल रहा है;

(ख) क्या कुछ स्थानों पर यह कार्य निर्धारित कार्यक्रम से पीछे चल रहा है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं , और

(घ) इस कार्य के कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी0 के0 जाफर शरीफ) :

(क) एक ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(घ) 31-12-93 ।

Fishing by chartered bull trawlers in EEZ

*28. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the news-item appearing in the Economic Times of 9th January, 1993 under the caption "Fishery Joint Venture rejected on green grounds" and state:

(a) how many chartered bull trawlers are presently authorised to fish in our Exclusive Economic Zone;

(b) how many such chartered bull trawlers are actually operating in our Exclusive Economic Zone;

(c) how many fishing companies received renewal or extension of validity for use of chartered bull trawlers in 1992; and

(d) the details thereof?